



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

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District man found guilty of killing a government witness

Washington, D.C. - A 20-year-old District of Columbia man, John Foreman, also known as "Baby J," was found guilty on May 25, 2010, by a Superior Court jury of 1st Degree Murder While Armed with Aggravating Circumstances and related weapons offenses, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen announced. The Honorable Gerald Fisher presided over the trial and will sentence Mr. Foreman on August 30, 2010..

According to the government's evidence presented at trial, the victim, Arthur Gale, and the defendant were friends who spent time in the Hobart Street, NW area of Washington, D.C. Gale and the defendant's brother, Maurice Foreman, had been arrested after a shoot out in Charles County, Maryland, on July 26, 2008. That same evening, Gale and other individuals told authorities that Maurice Foreman was in possession of a firearm. Maurice Foreman remained held and was visited by his brother, the defendant, at the Charles County Detention Center. The defendant then began stating that he believed Gale to be the main witness against his brother.

On October 17, 2008, the defendant, Gale, and two other individuals were in the area of the 700 block of Columbia Road, NW, at the Bruce Monroe Elementary School playground, when Gale and another individual began firing at a vehicle in the area. The four then walked up to an alley leading to Irving Street. In the alley the defendant shot Gale in the back and then proceeded to shoot him multiple times in the head as he lay on the ground. Gale died within minutes. The defendant fled the area but was arrested after a several week investigation.

In announcing the jury's verdict, U.S. Attorney Ronald Machen commended the

Metropolitan Police Department's Violent Crimes Branch, along with MPD Detectives Robert Cephas, Eric Fenton, Joshua Branson, Anthony D. Greene, James Wilson, Gus Giannakoulis, Norma Horne, and Thomas Webb. He also thanked Officers Thomas Ellingsworth, Dereck Phillip, Derrick Ferguson, Jonathan Amigo, and Timothy Ford, along with Kevin Jeter, Ralph Nitz, Ridley Durham, Tony Nwani, J.D. Smith, Kemper Agee, David Murray, and Daniel Barrett of the Firearms Section. U.S. Attorney Machen also praised the work of paralegal Fern Rehederick, and litigation services specialist Thomas Royal. Lastly, Mr. Machen thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Robert Feitel, who initiated the investigation of the case, Jeff Pearlman, who investigated, indicted, and tried the case, and Sean Lewis, who co-tried the case.

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